

recognition they deserved. Yet today, bureaucratic roadblocks continue to prevent nearly 4,000 of these aging World War II veterans from collecting the benefits they are due.

Five of these gentlemen pictured here reside in my district. They range in age from 83 to 100 years old. Regrettably, two others recently passed away. Many more will pass without ever obtaining the recognition they deserve if this body does not act to remove the barriers preventing these veterans from receiving the benefits they have earned.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in fighting to ensure these honorable World War II veterans are appropriately recognized.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THE 1972 ISRAELI OLYMPIANS

(Mrs. LOWEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I will use my time to observe a minute of silence for the Munich 11 who lost their lives at the 1972 Olympic Games.

Thank you.

EXCESSIVE FEDERAL REGULATIONS

(Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, take a look at this. Take a look at the regulatory red tape that's strangling America's small businesses, our job creators. Every time I travel up and down the Ohio River, businesses, both large and small, tell me that new regulations and the threat of more are keeping them from hiring and expanding.

Unemployment has been above 8 percent for the past 41 months, and America's job creators are speaking loud and clear that they want certainty. They want to grow and expand. And as a small business owner myself, I know firsthand the destructive burden of excessive regulation.

Today this House will take an important step toward freeing America's job creators from these excessive regulations. The Red Tape Reduction and Small Business Job Creation Act puts a stop to President Obama's unchecked power to issue costly and job-killing regulations on a whim. I encourage my colleagues to stand with me in supporting this legislation that will empower job creators to put America back to work.

RECOGNIZING LONG JUMP OLYMPIAN GEORGE KITCHENS, JR.

(Mr. BARROW asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Kitchens, Jr., from Augusta, Georgia, who will be representing our State and our Nation at the London Olympic Games beginning tomorrow. George will be making his very first Olympic appearance in the men's long jump. A former Clemson Tiger All-American athlete, George will be the first member of the Tigers long jump team to advance to the Olympic Games.

The American Olympic team is made up of 530 men and women. For the first time in history, this Olympic team will feature more female athletes than male athletes. Of the 302 medal events at the Olympic Games, the United States will be represented at 246.

We look forward to watching George win the gold when the men's long jump team takes the spotlight on Friday, August 3. I know I speak for all of my colleagues in wishing our American Olympic team the best of luck in London.

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CONDEMNING ALEXANDER LUKASHENKO

(Mr. TURNER of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my concern that Alexander Lukashenko, president of Belarus, continues to rule over Europe's last dictatorship. Despite continued promises of reform, Lukashenko continues to deny the people of Belarus their basic freedoms and human rights, and runs the country as a authoritarian dictatorship.

In fact, after Mr. Lukashenko's fraudulent election in 2010, 700 political opponents and activists were arrested during demonstrations. This is just one example of the type of persecution the people of Belarus have been subjected to in these past 18 years. Lukashenko's total disregard for the people he swore to protect is appalling, alarming, and should not be tolerated.

I'm here today to draw attention to this matter and publicly condemn Lukashenko and his regime for their continuing oppression of the people of Belarus, and offer my support for the country's civilians and pro-democracy forces.

AMERICA NEEDS A FARM BILL NOW

(Mr. WALZ of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a very simple message from rural America: we need a farm bill, and we need it now. With the current farm bill set to expire at the end of September, it is crucial that we continue to provide certainty to one of the few bright spots in our economy

over the past decade. It is all the more crucial to our farmers that we do this as they are staring at cracked, dried-out soil resulting from one of the worst droughts in modern history.

The newspaper Politico looked back 50 years—longer than I've been alive—and found that never before has a farm bill been this close to being passed and been blocked by House leadership. This is absolutely unacceptable.

Southern Minnesotans can't afford to deal with the uncertainty that follows out-of-date policy extensions or lame duck sessions. Lame, for sure.

Don't kick the can down the road. The Senate has passed a bill. The 2012 farm bill passed out of committee on July 12 with a bipartisan vote of 35–11, saving \$36 billion for the taxpayers.

My farmers in southern Minnesota are up before dawn working until after dark. We are leaving at noon today. We have 17 days between now and November 6 to work here in Washington. That is so unacceptable. No one will agree to that. Pass the farm bill. Pass it now.

U.N. ARMS TREATY VIOLATES U.S. CONSTITUTION

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the draft of the U.N. Arms Trade Treaty called ATT is an attempt by Third World countries to control guns worldwide, including personal firearms in the United States. Under the section of "scope," the treaty indicates that the covered items include small arms and light weapons. The language is so broad that nations are expected to track all weapons movements from the time they are manufactured until their destruction. The language is vague so that the treaty could be interpreted to restrict the ability of the U.S. to help arm its allies, like Taiwan and Israel.

The treaty presents a clear and present danger to the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. It allows the U.N. to steal our liberty. It is unbelievable that this administration is even considering signing this document. The Senate should never approve it if the President signs onto it. The President should ignore the treaty because he took an oath to the U.S. Constitution, not to the U.N. charter.

And that's just the way it is.

CONDEMNING ANTI-SAFETY LEGISLATION

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today the House will vote on legislation to block all new Federal regulations. I'm concerned that this bill would damage our ability to improve aviation safety, which the bipartisan western New York delegation has long promoted.

We fought alongside the families of Flight 3407, who lost loved ones in a